State of Connecticut

Department of Correction

Program Development

Alphabetical Listing of Programs for YORK CI

Addiction Services Aftercare Program

Description

The aftercare program is available to inmates following completion of Tier 3 or Tier 4 programs. It is designed to provide a continuum of care and maintenance of a recovery identity, which fosters independence, personal responsibility, and application of relapse prevention skills.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services

Types:
Addiction

Addiction Services Tier 1 Substance Abuse Education Program

Description

The Tier 1 program consists of six (6) substance abuse education group sessions, including a minimum of one fellowship meeting. This program is designed to present basic substance abuse information, confront denial, and encourage further treatment involvement.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services

Types: Addiction

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Addiction Services Tier 2 Intensive Outpatient Program

Description

The Tier 2 Program is an intensive outpatient Addiction Services program with 30 curriculum sessions for 10 weeks. Group components are held three times weekly and incorporate weekly fellowship meetings to lay the foundation of basic substance abuse information, promote personal identification with recovery, and motivate further treatment involvement.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services

Types: Addiction

Addiction Services Tier 4 Residential Treatment Program

Description

The Tier 4 Addiction Services program is a modified therapeutic community. The program provides inmates the opportunity to be involved in full-time substance treatment in a separate housing unit. Tier 4 treatment is intensive and includes curriculum, skill building and process groups, as well as community building and individual counseling. These residential programs are six months in length.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services

Types: Addiction

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Adult Basic Education (ABE)

Description

ABE is the primary program of instruction designed to provide training in basic academic skills in the areas of reading, mathematics, language arts, general science and social studies. The program is directed toward increasing proficiency to the eighth grade level.

Facility: York Cl

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Academic Education

Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACOA)

Description

This is an anonymous fellowship group designed to support individuals who have grown up in an alcoholic/dysfunctional family and are seeking help to heal self-destructive life patterns.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services, Volunteer Services

Types: Addiction

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Al-Anon

Description

This is a self-help support group for friends and family members of alcoholic or problem drinkers. Discussions primarily focus on problematic behaviors exhibited by the alcoholic, helping the attendees develop coping strategies. This on-going evening group is offered weekly.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Addiction

Alcoholics Anonymous

Description

This is a 12-Step Fellowship self-help group for men and women who provide mutual support in obtaining and maintaining sobriety while also helping others to recover from alcoholism. Meetings, in a variety of formats (Big Book, Step Meetings, Speaker, etc.), are held on a weekly basis. Addiction Services staff coordinate the meetings and provide oversight for the program.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Addiction

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Alcoholics Anonymous - Spanish

Description

This program is conducted in Spanish. Alcoholics Anonymous is a 12-Step Fellowship self-help group for men and women who provide mutual support in obtaining and maintaining sobriety while also helping others to recover from alcoholism. Meetings are held on a weekly basis. Addiction Services staff coordinate the meetings and provide oversight for the program.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services

Types:

Addiction

Alternatives to Violence (AVP):

Description

Certified AVP volunteers lead basic, intermediate and advanced workshops to teach inmates to understand and to control anger, and how to cope with violence in their lives. Inmates are provided certificates of completion for each workshop level. Those completing AVP workshops become eligible to serve as group facilitators.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Volunteer Group

Types:

Anger Management

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Anger Management

Description

This group program is designed to help inmates better manage their anger. It teaches inmates how to redirect their anger to a less aggressive and more controlled response.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Anger Management

Apprenticeship Programs

Description

Apprenticeships in concert with the Labor Department are offered in thirty-six programs at twelve sites. These programs range in length from six months to three years. Vocational students earn apprenticeship credit and upon completion of a program are awarded a prospective apprenticeship certificate by the Connecticut Labor Department.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Transition, Vocational Education

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Artists In Residence

Description

Accomplished artists provide inmates with an introduction to the basic principles of fine art. Volunteer Artists-In-Residence within correctional institutions bring art behind bars and serve to broaden inmates' abilities to express themselves by developing talents or skills in drawing, painting, music and creative writing. Inmate artwork is collected annually by a Prison Art Program Curator from Hartford's Community Partners in Action (CPA) which operates this service solely through the support of grants from local foundations, corporations and the Connecticut Commission on the Arts. This art collection is arranged for exhibition in community spaces across the state. The CPA also publishes an annual journal of arts in correction serving to bring creative writing, poetry and visual art produced by inmates to the broader community.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Volunteer Services

Types:

Self Improvement

Beat the Streets/Pre-Release Video Group

Description

This is a group which would be held to increase relapse prevention and coping skills of inmates who are preparing to enter the community. It will be a five-week group based on the video series Beat the Streets. These films address relapse prevention strategies, dealing with housing, old friends, triggers, coping with relapse traps that occur in relationships, techniques for handling anger, shame, guilt, self-pity, and goals of long term recovery.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services

Types:

Anger Management, Self Improvement

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Beyond Fear

Description

This is an AIDS education program utilizing a curriculum, printed materials, and an educational video developed by the Department of Public Health. The program is delivered by a contracted outside agency, and funded through the Department of Public Health.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Contracted Program, Health Services

Types:

Health Education

Bridging the Gap

Description

Alcoholics Anonymous is one of the most important self-help resources for alcoholic men and women. A very important first step for inmates being released into the community is attending the first meeting as soon as possible following release. Addiction Services staff in the institution utilize a toll-free telephone number to get information about the nearest AA meeting location, along with the name of a contact person. An AA member then will contact the inmate upon release and even provide transportation to a meeting.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services

Types: Addiction

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Business Education

Description

This program prepares students for entry-level employment requiring basic business skills.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

Catholic Bible Study

Description

Biblical readings are reviewed with inmates. The goal of this program is to help inmates develop self-awareness and personal growth based on Christian principles.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Religious Services

Types: Religious

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Catholic Life in the Spirit Seminar

Description

This is a weekend faith development seminar held twice yearly.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Religious

Catholic Mass

Description

This is the weekly Catholic worship service.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Religious Services

Types:

Worship Services

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Catholic Studies

Description

Participants in this program study materials from the Confirmation Lesson Plan Guide. This study prepares students for the sacrament of Confirmation.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Religious Services

Types: Religious

Certified Nurse's Aide Program

Description

The purpose of the C.N.A. program is to prepare students for entry level employment in a long-term care facility servicing geriatric patients. The 165-hour course is designed to teach basic-nursing skills used in patient care. Upon successful completion of the CNA program, the student qualifies to take the state exam for certification.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

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Child Development Group

Description

This is an educational group that provides information on the stages of child development. Participants become aware of their child's age-appropriate behaviors and learn the importance of communicating effectively with their child. This group meets weekly for six sessions.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Family

Commercial Cleaning

Description

This thirty-week program focuses on basic and advanced commercial cleaning procedures. The program covers the chemistry of cleaning, handling of hazardous and infectious waste, and the basic cleaning procedures for floor, tile, carpeted areas and restrooms. In phase two, the student is taught advanced procedures for maintaining all types of surfaces, as well as the necessary skills to recognize and operate various types of equipment. Graduation from this program can assist inmates in obtaining a job in the community.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

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Communication Skills

Description

This group helps participants develop effective communication skills. Topics include verbal and nonverbal communication, active listening and managing conflicts. This group meets weekly for eight sessions and is offered to inmates housed in the restrictive housing unit.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Female CDU

Community Lecture

Description

This is a psychosocial group. Topics touch on issues of the day relative to the participants' lives, such as how to look for work in the community. Educational videos may be shown. Guest lecturers are invited. This weekly group is available to inmates residing in the Social Rehabilitation Housing Unit.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Health Education, Self Improvement

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Community Outreach Program

Description

This program provides assistance with Public Service projects for the state, local governments and non-profit organizations. Projects include general cleaning, painting, stripping and waxing floors, office work and outside grounds work.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Community Work Group

Community Services Detail

Description

The Community Services Detail provides inmate labor to various state and local non-profit organizations. Examples of work performed are basic carpentry, painting, refinishing floors, grounds landscaping and maintenance. A cornerstone of the restorative justice concept, the community services detail provides enormous benefit to the community and to the inmate participants.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Community Work Group

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Connecticut Small Business Development Center

Description

This program provides information on starting a small business, as well as developing a business and marketing plan.

Facility: York CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:
Transition

CONNTAC-EOC (CT Talent Assistance Cooperative-Education

Opportunity Center)

Description

Representatives from CONNTAC-EOC are provided with names of students to meet with while the student is still incarcerated. The representatives assist students with their post-secondary plans and financial aid.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Transition

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Cosmetology/Barbering

Description

This program prepares students to become licensed barbers and cosmetologists. Course requirements are 1500 hours of theory and practical experience to qualify for licensure. A rigorous set of criteria is required for entrance into the program. Final approval for licensure is determined through the State Board of Health. The classroom is set up to simulate an actual salon environment including appropriate business behavior. Upon completion of the course, it is followed by the state exam, administered at the facility through the State Board of Health and Addiction Services.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

Courage to Change

Description

This group provides information regarding addiction issues as well as support services to inmates while incarcerated. The twelve-step philosophy is utilized to facilitate this program and the materials concentrate on the first three steps. This group meets weekly for ten sessions.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services

Types: Addiction

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Creative Therapy

Description

This group is available to inmates housed in the inpatient mental health unit. It focuses on the development of interpersonal skills. It encourages empathy and the recognition of common problems. It helps participants recognize feelings as a response to the environment and promotes interpersonal learning through sharing constructive responses to negative experiences.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Mental Health

Culinary Arts

Description

This course stresses safety and sanitation as well as tool and equipment usage. Through practice and discussion, students are taught skills in basic cooking, methods, culinary techniques, weights, measures and recipe conversions. Participants earn a Safe Serve Certificate after passing a test administered by the National Restaurant Association. This program is an apprenticeship approved through the CT State Department of Labor.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

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Cultural Awareness-Security Risk Group Program

Description

This program addresses topics of defining culture, stereotypes, prejudice and encouraging tolerance of cultural diversity. Participants are security risk group members. This group meets weekly for four sessions.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Cultural Diversity

Data-Con

Description

This program teaches inmates how to utilize high-tech equipment for data processing purposes. Data-Con provides data entry services for a large number of state agencies. This program prepares inmates for data-entry jobs that are readily available in the community. Data-Con currently employs sixty inmates.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Correctional Enterprises of Connecticut

Types:

Institutional Employment, Vocational Education

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Day of Reflection

Description

This is a one-day spiritual retreat that focuses on faith discussions, prayer and craft activities. It is held once per month.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types: Religious

Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) - Social Rehabilitation Program

Description

This highly structured treatment approach is designed to deal with individuals with a history of self-abuse, such as self-mutilation. It is a cognitive-behavioral modality with an additional element of relaxation/self-soothing. This group is available to inmates residing in the Social Rehabilitation Housing Unit. It meets twice weekly.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Mental Health

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Educational, Career Resources and Job Fairs

Description

These types of Fairs are conducted in the form of a professional conference for students. The educational staff invite a keynote speaker and students proceed to attend individual workshops on a variety of topics. The goal of these Fairs is to assist inmates with their transition plans before they return to the community.

Facility:
York Cl
Auspices:
USD#1
Types:

Transition

Extended Family Visiting

Description

This program focuses on improving relationships between incarcerated women, their children and family members in order to strengthen and maintain relationships during the period of incarceration. It provides the inmate, an inmate's child and family members an extended period of visitation in a setting separate from regular social visits.

Facility:
York Cl
Auspices:
Facility Staff
Types:
Family

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Family Education & Parenting

Description

This program is designed to help inmates with children become responsible parents. Inmates have classes in parenting skills and in some cases read children's books into audio or video-cassettes to send home to their children. Components of the parenting skills classes include parenting from a distance, discipline techniques, and communicating with children.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Family

Free to Be Me

Description

This program provides offenders the opportunity to meet with a volunteer to define personal needs and to learn to develop a better understanding of self and spirit. Modeled after 12-step programs, a volunteer delivers one-to-one mentoring services guiding the offender to a more complete understanding of self and expectations from others. This program allows inmates the opportunity to combine faith and beliefs with a positive mental attitude for the future.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types: Religious

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Gang Awareness

Description

Participants examine their involvement in a security risk group and the consequences of that involvement. Group topics include addiction, decision making skills and breaking the cycle of the negative lifestyle. The group meets weekly for eight sessions. This group is offered to designated gang members and gang threat members.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Female SRG

General Educational Development (GED)

Description

The GED is the primary program of instruction for students functioning above an eighth grade level who wish to earn a State of Connecticut high school diploma through the examination process. GED Tutors and volunteers assist Department teachers by helping inmates prepare for the GED Exam and/or by helping to teach basic language skills.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Academic Education

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Girl Scouts Beyond Bars

Description

This program is designed to enhance the relationship between mother and daughter. Volunteers from the Girl Scouts bring daughters of inmates to the facility to participate in creative activities. The group meets on a monthly basis.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Volunteer Group

Types: Family

Grief and Loss

Description

This group is open to women who have suffered significant loss in their lives and who continue to suffer. It is a facilitated support group with a psychoeducational component.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Mental Health, Self Improvement

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Growth & Empowerment

Description

This group is provided to inmates at the York CI in-patient Mental Health Unit. An ongoing weekly group, it covers such topics as relationships, dealing with feelings, self-esteem, abuse, recovery issues and communication skills.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Mental Health

Head-to-Toe Program

Description

This program provides new and slightly used career clothing and accessories for each ensemble to inmates who are being released back into the community. The intent of the program is to outfit the inmate for her first job interview upon release and provide her with additional clothing to carry her through her first week of employment. Priority will be given to inmates who have completed the STEP and STRIDE job readiness programs. This program will help the inmates with their transition from prison to the working world in society and promote self-confidence.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Transition

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Health & Healing Group

Description

This a peer support group that provides information and addresses feelings about specific health issues prevalent among incarcerated women.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services, Volunteer Group

Types:

Health Education

Hepatitis B Vaccination Program

Description

Health Services, through a grant from the Department of Public Health, offers the Hepatitis B Vaccination Series to youths age 19 and under. The program includes an educational component as well as the 3-part vaccination series.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Health Education

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High Risk Infant Program

Description

This weekly group provides prenatal education and support to incarcerated pregnant inmates regarding labor and delivery concerns and parenting skills. A social worker is also available to assist with concerns and questions regarding the post partum placement of the infant.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Family, Health Education

HIV Counseling, Testing & Risk Reduction Education

Description

When inmates are tested for HIV, the department provides standardized counseling by Department of Public Health certified counselors before and after testing. Counseling components include what HIV and AIDS are, how to get it, how to avoid getting it, what it means to be HIV positive, how to take care of oneself if one is HIV positive, and help in dealing with the associated feelings.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Health Education

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HIV Support Services

Description

The Department demonstrates a collaborative approach in providing HIV support services to inmates in all facilities. A UCONN (Contracted) Heath Services Team coordinates testing and counseling services; the Department's School District conducts classroom instruction about HIV; the Department's Addiction Services Unit Counselors provide HIV education and prevention counseling; a number of volunteers serve as "buddies" or sponsors; and Hartford's Community Partners in Action (CPA) receives funding from foundations, grants as well as support from the state's Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services to operate the "Beyond Fear" Program. Altogether the Department hosts a complete program that includes counseling, testing, education focus groups, videos, intervention strategies and is able to assist discharging inmates with need for such services as housing, medical treatment, food, clothing and transportation.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Health Education

Income Tax Preparation

Description

This program provides students with skills necessary to prepare their state and federal income tax forms.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Self Improvement

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Inner-Circle Mothers' Group

Description

This a group for women who have graduated from the Mothers' Support Group. Participants continue to work on issues they have identified from the Mothers' Support Group.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Family

Interpersonal/Assertiveness Training

Description

This group is available to inmates housed in the inpatient mental health unit. It teaches and enhances communication skills, manners, etiquette and appropriate behaviors and responses. It provides psychoeducation about assertiveness, communication skills and domestic violence.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Self Improvement

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Islamic Video and Discussion

Description

This is a weekly instructional video and discussion group focused on the historical background of Islam, prayer, customs, and traditions. A short discussion follows each video.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types: Religious

Jehovah's Witness Bible Study

Description

Biblical readings are reviewed with inmates. The goal of this program is to help inmates develop self-awareness and personal growth based on Jehovah's Witness principles.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types: Religious

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Jewish Worship and Torah Studies

Description

Jewish Worship services and Torah studies are conducted weekly. During the Holy Days, services are celebrated under the supervision of the Religious Coordinator.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Religious, Worship Services

Just for Today

Description

This group is offered to inmates in York CI's protective custody unit. The focus of group changes depending on the assessed needs of the group. Topics include addiction, anger management, relationship issues and self-esteem. The group meets weekly for eight weeks.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Anger Management, Self Improvement

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Kairos

Description

This is a 40-hour faith retreat that is held once a year with monthly reunions.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Religious

Life Plan

Description

This program prepares inmates for release to the community by deepening their spiritual strength. It consists of a discussion group that utilizes a workbook for religious exercises.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Religious, Transition

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Literacy Volunteers of America

Description

An active group of community volunteers, as well as inmate volunteers, contribute hundreds of hours to combat illiteracy for inmates in all of the facilities. Basic reading, vocabulary and comprehension skills are stressed.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Volunteer Services

Types:

Academic Education

Meditation Group - Social Rehabilitation Program

Description

The participants are instructed and led in the practice of meditation by one of the institution's chaplains. The goal of this group is spiritual and therapeutic insofar as anxiety disorders respond well to meditation/relaxation techniques. It meets twice weekly and is offered to inmates residing in York CI's Social Rehabilitation Housing Unit.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services, Religious Services

Types:

Self Improvement, Social Rehabilitation

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Micro Computers/Computer Education

Description

The MicroComputer Software Application Technology course is designed to provide students with an introduction to computer operations and with the application of various software packages and programs. Students begin by learning simple software programs and then progress to more sophisticated packages as their individual skills develop. Software programs introduced include but are not limited to the following: Access, Visual Basics, Adobe Pagemaker, Excel, WordPerfect, MicroSoft Works, Power Point, Micro-Soft Word, Micro-Soft for Windows, and PageMaker. Students design and complete projects using this software.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

Mindful Living Meditation

Description

This program teaches meditation skills and assists participants in reducing stress and finding serenity. Inmates meet weekly for eight sessions.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff, Health Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Female CDU, Self Improvement

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Mothers' Support Group

Description

This group assists incarcerated women to identify and understand their own emotions and their children's needs. It focuses on responsible and effective parenting, as well as mother-child relationships. The group meets weekly for six sessions.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Family

Narcotics Anonymous

Description

Narcotics Anonymous is a twelve-step fellowship of addicts helping addicts to recover from the disease of addiction. Meetings, in a variety of formats (Step Meetings, Speaker, Speaker/Discussion, etc.), are held on a weekly basis. The meetings are usually conducted by outside volunteers who share their story of addiction and recovery. Addiction Services staff coordinate the meetings and provide oversight for the program.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services, Volunteer Services

Types: Addiction

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Occupational Therapy-Therapeutic Recreation

Description

This group is available to inmates assigned to in-patient mental health units. Participants learn to follow simple and multi-step directions and to utilize eye-hand coordination. It emphasizes focusing on specific tasks and improving concentration as well as exploring relaxation through arts and crafts. It utilizes discussion, structured activities and audio/video materials.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Mental Health

Parent - Child Topics Group

Description

This is a volunteer facilitated group that focuses on different areas specific to parenting. Topics include the effects of violence in the home on children, understanding childrens' feelings as related to their behaviors, child self-esteem and positive methods of discipline.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Volunteer Services

Types: Family

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Parent Education Group

Description

This program teaches parenting skills and is facilitated by contracted staff from the Families in Crisis Agency. It addresses issues of family systems, communication, human development, child development and discipline. The group meets weekly for six sessions.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Contracted Program

Types:

Family

Parenting From a Distance Group

Description

This is a support group for inmates with children that helps inmates identify and explore the special problems they face due to separation from their children. This group meets weekly for six sessions.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Family

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Parenting Skills

Description

This program teaches parenting skills and is facilitated by facility staff. The program addresses positive parenting approaches and increased knowledge of parenting issues. The program is offered weekly for six sessions.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Family

Peer Mentor Program

Description

Peer Mentors are Tier program graduates who assist Addiction Services staff in the presentation of Tier program groups and 12-Step Fellowship groups. The primary purpose of Peer Mentors is to model a recovery lifestyle for other program participants. Weekly training meetings are required for all Peer Mentors.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services

Types: Addiction

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PEP - People Empowering People

Description

This program provides educational training in values clarification, communication skills, problem solving and parenting. The program builds on personal strengths, providing opportunities for participants to gain skills while they take greater control of their own lives.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Volunteer Services

Types:

Self Improvement

Phase III - Security Risk Group Awareness

Description

Participants examine their involvement in security risk groups and the consequences of that involvement. Unhealthy relationships and addictive behavior are discussed.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Female SRG, Self Improvement

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Post-Secondary Programs

Description

College and Correspondence Courses are offered in an effort to encourage or prepare students for ongoing educational opportunities (Students pay a tuition and book fee for college courses). One of the main goals is to be able to provide well-behaved inmates an opportunity to be engaged in self-development.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Academic Education

Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Group

Description

This is a group specifically for persons with a diagnosis of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Participants are expected to have a least begun Dialectical Behavioral Therapy skills training before delving into their trauma histories in the group. This group is available to inmates residing in the Social Rehabilitation Program.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Mental Health

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Pre-Release Program

Description

This ongoing group offers information on community support groups and resources to assist offenders in successfully reintegrating into the community.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Transition

Pre-Release Training

Description

This program presents Information about community resources to help participants successfully re-enter the community after release. The group meets weekly on an ongoing basis.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types: Transition

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Prison PUP Partnership Program

Description

This program trains puppies to assist the disabled in their home and community settings. While trained dogs are extraordinarily helpful to disabled individuals, the training is extremely labor-intensive and averages 18 months. This program, using inmate-trainers, is able to intensify and significantly shorten the training period, thereby increasing the amount of time these dogs will serve. In addition to providing an invaluable community service, involved inmates learn skills such as decision-making, responsibility, and care-giving.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff, Volunteer Services

Types:

Community Service, Self Improvement

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Project Johnson

Description

Youth-At Risk tours are conducted at the facility for at-risk juveniles from various agencies statewide. Project Johnson is a cooperative venture between the Manchester Youth Service Bureau, The Manchester Police Department, and the Hartford and York Correctional Facilities. Project Johnson is a diversion program for "at risk" youths in which they get to see first hand the inner workings of a correctional facility. The youths are permitted to enter the housing of the general inmate population; this is crucial in allowing the youths to feel the fear, vulnerability, anxiety and apprehension of incarceration. The majority of youths who get into trouble today don't fear the possibility of imprisonment because it is so abstract to them. The goal of Project Johnson is to show these youths the "reality" of prison incarceration, resulting in less recidivism and violations of probation. The prison tour shows these youths the negative consequences of poor choices. In addition the Project shows them the positive consequences of good choices: selected groups now spend the afternoon at Manchester Community College. The youths are given a tour of the campus, including the computer labs, sports and arts facilities and student activity centers. The program sends the message to the youths that they can be successful in school and in life, if they choose to be.

Facility:
York Cl
Auspices:
Facility Staff
Types:

Self Improvement

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Project Rap/Youth at Risk

Description

This is an educational community service provided by the community outreach staff and inmates addressing the results of poor decision-making. It reaches middle schools and high schools and addresses issues such as drugs, alcohol, HIV, peer pressure, gangs and violence, incarcerated life and life goals. Inmates are brought into the community middle schools and high school to speak about their experiences. Community youth are also brought into the facility for tours and inmate presentations. This is a diversion program for "at risk" youths in which these youths are shown the reality of prison incarceration. The youths tour the facility and see the negative consequences of poor choices.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Community Service

Protestant Bible Study

Description

Biblical readings are reviewed with inmates. The goal of this program is to help inmates develop self-awareness and personal growth based on Christian principles.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types: Religious

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Protestant Bible Study (Spanish)

Description

Biblical readings are reviewed with Spanish inmates. The goal of this program is to help inmates develop self-awareness and personal growth based on Christian principles.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types: Religious

Protestant Prison Fellowship Seminar

Description

This is a weekend faith development seminar held twice yearly.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types: Religious

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Protestant Service

Description

This is the weekly Protestant worship service.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Worship Services

Psychosocial Education Group-Social Rehabilitation Program

Description

This program is offered to inmates in mental health housing. Various topics are introduced with a view to educating the participants in psychosocial skills, such as how to deal with relationship issues and interpersonal conflict. Basic living skills such as hygiene and organizing one's personal schedule are covered. The group meets weekly.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Mental Health, Social Rehabilitation

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Read to Your Children

Description

This program is designed to foster a bond between a child and his/her incarcerated parent. USD#1 creates and maintains a collection of children's books. Inmates can select from a book and read to their child during regular visiting hours. In some cases, inmates enrolled in school can read a book and be videotaped and then send the tape and book to the child.

Facility: York CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types: Family

Recovery Group - York

Description

This group assists inmates in learning the recovery process and strategies to stay sober from mood altering substances. Topics include dealing with high risk situations and coping with cravings. This group meets weekly for ten sessions.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services

Types: Addiction

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Rehabilitating the Self

Description

This group focuses on developing and expanding self-esteem. The group helps inmates to examine their interpersonal communication styles and to develop new, more effective communication styles. Inmates are taught how self-esteem and self-image affect all aspects of their lives and decisions and choices they make.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Self Improvement

Relapse Prevention Substance Abuse - York

Description

This program for community release eligible inmates is designed to prepare them for the challenges of re-entry into the community. This program focuses on strategies to prevent relapse from mood-altering substances. Topics include coping skills and transition to the community. This weekly group meets for ten sessions.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services

Types:

Addiction, Transition

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Relationship Issues Group

Description

This program assists participants in developing healthy relationships. Belief systems are challenged in order to help participants make healthy choices and practice positive behaviors. This group meets weekly for ten sessions.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services

Types:

Self Improvement

Relationship Skills Group

Description

This group meets once per week and is available to inmates housed in the inpatient Mental Health Unit. This group explores interpersonal relationship and communication styles to gain a greater understanding of relationships and effective communication. This group also explores how self-esteem and self-image affect our relationship choices. The group provides psychoeducation about healthy and abusive relationships.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Mental Health

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Sacred Academy of Faith Development

Description

This group offers college level courses on Theological and Biblical issues. This group is conducted once per week.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types: Religious

Self-Change Group

Description

This group assists participants in identifying how thinking patterns and socialization have affected their behavior. It addresses how alternative thought and communication patterns can create positive behavioral changes. This program is offered to inmates who exhibit problematic behaviors within the facility or who are gang threat members. These inmates are housed in the restrictive housing unit.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Female SRG, Self Improvement

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Sesame Street

Description

This is a weekend program offered to inmates' children from 3 to 11 years of age. Inmate caregivers work with these children under the supervision of staff from a contracted provider, Families in Crisis. When families visit inmates their children are given the opportunity to play games or engage in other age-appropriate and fun activities. In order for the inmates to become caretakers they are carefully screened by DOC staff. In addition, they receive a 16-week training session.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Contracted Program, Volunteer Services

Types: Family

SET ME FREE Pre-Release Group

Description

This group is for women who have two (2) months or less on their sentences. The group will consist of 12 women and will run for a cycle of four weeks. Broken down into four 1 1/2 hour sessions. Each group commences with a 25-minute video followed by a discussion and or role play. The videos are entitled "Success after Prison" and focus on reducing recidivism, cognitive intervention, and changing the mindset toward a positive attitude. Topics covered include: blame/victim patterns; taking responsibility for your life; conflict/anger management; positive benefits from prison (GED, vocation-training etc.), forgiveness/restoring relationships. Strong emphasis will be placed on role play on employment skills: i.e. interview conduct; completing application forms, etc.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Anger Management, Transition

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Sex Offender Program

Description

The Sex Offender Program is a specialized program for inmates who have committed a sexual assault. The program is provided by mental health staff with specialized training in the treatment of sex offenders. The overall goal of the program is to decrease sexual violence. The program teaches inmates about the nature of sexual assault, helping them develop an individualized relapse prevention strategy for themselves, helping them improve the quality of normal interpersonal relationships, helping them better manage their anger, and helping them develop victim empathy.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Sex Offender

Special Education and Pupil Services

Description

The special education teachers, pupil services specialists (School Psychologists, School Counselors, School Social Workers), and the associated clerical and durational staff provide services to students with handicapping conditions which interfere with their ability to participate in school. These services are mandated by federal (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Amendments of 1997) and state (Connecticut General Statutes 10-76) statute. Special education services encompass a broad array of activities including assessment, counseling, transition planning, and both the direct and indirect (e.g. consultation) services of the special education teachers and pupil services staff. Student programs are designed according to the individual needs of each student with disabilities and are specified in an Individualized Education Plan (IEP.)

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Academic Education

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Sponsorship Behind the Walls

Description

This program is designed for inmates participating in a 12-step recovery program. It enables participants to write to an outside sponsor in order to work the 12 steps of recovery.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services, Volunteer Services

Types: Addiction

Stress and Anger Management

Description

This restrictive housing program assists participants in identifying physical changes, feelings and behaviors in which they engage when they become stressed or angry. The program is offered to inmates who exhibit problematic behavior within the facility, including gang threat members.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Anger Management, Female SRG, Self Improvement

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Stride Program

Description

The Stride Program is a service designed to provide incarcerated or paroled individuals who meet specific criteria with resources such as housing, employment and clothing. Unified School District #1 staff provide Stride with names of eligible inmates who they can meet within the facility to assist with transition plans prior to release.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Contracted Program, USD#1

Types: Transition

Strive Program

Description

STRIVE is a program operated by a number not-for-profit affiliates. Its main goal is to help people get and keep jobs. STRIVE emphasizes developing the kinds of attitudes that are necessary to get and keep a job. It actively assists in job placement for graduates and offers two-year long-term post placement support to help its graduates with whatever problem that threatens their continued success. In this collaborative effort, STRIVE and the Department of Correction staff enrolls the inmates in an intensive three-week program, to begin upon discharge from the facility. The objective of this collaborative program is to keep the participants from returning to the Department of Correction by helping them change their attitude, get a job, and keep the job.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff, Volunteer Group

Types: Transition

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Supportive Therapy

Description

This program is open to all who sign up. It is intended to serve as an outlet for inmates who often express concerns for the future as they approach discharge.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Transition

Survivors of Abuse

Description

This program focuses on providing a supportive environment in which participants can heal from physical, sexual and emotional abuse. The group is ongoing and meets weekly.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff, Health Services

Types:

Self Improvement

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Survivors of Sexual Abuse/Trauma & Empowerment

Description

This group provides a safe environment where victims of sexual abuse can share their experience, beliefs about abuse and begin the healing process. The group helps participants gain insight into how abuse has influenced their lives and how to increase their self-esteem.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Self Improvement

Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)

Description

TESOL is an instructional program for students whose primary language is not English. TESOL instruction helps students to speak, read and write English or assists them in developing the language skills necessary for overall academic and vocational progress.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Academic Education

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Tech Prep Program

Description

This is a program that offers opportunities for high school students to earn college credits through work with Community Colleges and USD#1 teachers.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

The Center for Women and Families

Description

This contracted agency provides individual and group counseling to female inmates who are preparing to return to the community. The program assists them to prepare a plan to establish a non-criminal means of support, to locate adequate housing, and to enroll in educational or vocational training when appropriate. The agency continues to provide services to the inmate if she is released to the Bridgeport area.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Contracted Program

Types:

Transition

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The Resettlement Program

Description

The Resettlement Program is a program of Community Partners in Action, which provides long-term case management services to inmates six months prior to release and then up to six months follow-up services in the community. The goal of the program is to assist offenders prepare for and accomplish a successful transition back into the community. The targeted population for the program is those high-risk inmates who have a multitude of issues which include but are not limited to the following: a history of incarceration, substance abuse, lack of life skills and/or education, unstable employment record, lack of housing upon release, etc. The program acts as a bridge connecting inmates to those community based agencies that are instrumental in securing appropriate housing, treatment, employment, education, food, clothing and other life necessities. The ultimate goal is to help reduce the recidivism rate by assisting ex-offenders establish a crime-free life for themselves and their family.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Volunteer Services

Types: Transition

The Skills Toward Employment Programs (Step Program)

Description

The STEP Program is designed to provide job readiness and job search skills that are intended to promote access to higher paying, personally relevant jobs that meet statewide labor market demands. Participants are non-custodial parents incarcerated at York Correctional Institution. The training modules include cover letters, goal setting, labor trends, networking, assessments, interviewing, transferable skills, listening skills, transition plans, career transcript, work values, job search, problem solving, resume writing and communication.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Contracted Program, USD#1

Types:

Transition

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Thompson Hall Solarium Visiting

Description

Maintaining connections with children is especially important for many incarcerated women. York CI, often in conjunction with the Department of Children and Families, arranges visits in a special visiting area that provides a softer environment and separate space for inmates to visit their children.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Family

Time of Prayer

Description

This is a prayer group that is held once per month.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types: Religious

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Training in Relaxation and Stress Reduction

Description

In this program inmates with mental health needs are introduced to a variety of techniques to reduce stress and induce relaxation. Techniques are practiced to promote a successful outcome.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Mental Health

Transition/School to Work

Description

The Transition/School to Work program's mission is to place participating students in employment and/or vocational/educational programs and to provide each student with a needs-based transition plan prior to his/her release to maximize potential for successful re-entry into society. School-based and work-based learning opportunities are provided through job and resource fairs, employment skills curriculum, sessions with transition counselors and meetings with a transition coordinator. A USD#1 brochure describing this program is available.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Transition

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Transitional Linkage into the Community (TLC)

Description

Transitional Linkage into the Community (TLC) is a program of Community Partners in Action which provides discharge planning for inmates with HIV/AIDS. TLC serves every prison and jail in the state, and works with clients returning to every region of the state. TLC case managers meet clients' emergency needs upon release, and connect them with services in their local communities for continuing care and assistance.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Contracted Program, Health Services

Types:

Health Education, Transition

Understanding Addiction

Description

This program provides addiction education to inmates who are new admissions to the facility. Topics include the symptoms of addiction and strategies to remain drug free. This group meets weekly for four sessions.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services

Types: Addiction

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V.O.I.C.E.S. (Victim Offender Institutional Correctional Educational

Services)

Description

Volunteers support the Department's V.O.I.C.E.S. Program. It is designed to broaden inmates' understanding and sensitivity to the impact of their crime on others.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff, Victim Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Domestic Violence, Victim

Victim-Offender Dialogue

Description

For a variety of reasons, it is sometimes helpful for victims to meet with offenders. The department's Victim Services Unit evaluates and when appropriate facilitates this dialogue. The process is designed to achieve the objectives of restorative justice, healing the victim, and confronting and holding the offender accountable. Although this process can often be very helpful to the inmate, all such dialogues are initiated at the request of victims.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff, Victim Services

Types:

Domestic Violence, Victim

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Video Discussion Group

Description

This group deals with a wide variety of issues utilizing videos followed by discussion and homework. Topics include substance abuse, domestic violence, self-esteem, hygiene/birth control, parenting, and women's issues.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff, Health Services

Types:

Health Education, Self Improvement

Voices of Joy Choir

Description

This is a group that meets to practice gospel music and participates in Protestant Worship services and community functions.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Religious Services

Types:

Religious

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Women and Depression

Description

This is a psychoeducational support group for inmates who have a history of depression. Through shared experience and educational resources, inmates are educated about various treatment options and techniques to help themselves.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Health Education, Mental Health

Women of Praise

Description

This is a discussion group that focuses on Women's Faith issues.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types: Religious

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Young and Positive

Description

This program provides participants with knowledge and skills normally acquired during the adolescent period of development. It addresses the effects that violence and substance abuse may have had during her formative years. It focuses on changing old patterns of behavior. This program is offered to inmates under the age of 18, including inmates in the Chronic Disciplinary Unit.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Female CDU, Self Improvement

Youth Offender Program

Description

Through the use of federal funds, post-secondary education and transition services are provided to "youth offenders" up to the age of 26 who are eligible for parole or release within five years. A transition counselor provides assistance and counseling to encourage participants to acquire functional literacy as well as life/job skills while in prison. Students participate in post-secondary classes, complete portfolios, and develop transition plans and placement.

Facility:

York CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Academic Education, Vocational Education

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